

TOWN OF OTEGO

October 13, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 3526 State Highway 7, Otego, New York. The purpose of the meeting was to audit the bills and cover any other business coming before the board.

The following members were present:

Joseph Hurlburt	Town Supervisor
Teresa Sears	Town Clerk
Barbara Stanton	Councilperson
David Sheldon	Councilperson
Terry Brown	Councilperson
Royce Livingston	Councilperson
JR Hurlburt	Highway Supt.

Minutes

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to accept the minutes of the September 8th meeting with a correction to court report. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to accept the minutes of the September 21st meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Terry Brown, to accept the minutes of the September 27th meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Custom Electronics

Mr. Pentaris, a representative of Custom Electronics, shared with the board that Custom Electronics wishes to purchase the former Hometown Auto property to establish a light manufacturing business. He presented the board with photos of their current manufacturing. He has spoken to Dan Wilber, Code Officer, and David Sheldon, planning board liaison, about this possibility since this property is zoned residential.

Mr. Wilber recommends the town allow a zoning rewrite since this business is compatible with the former business that was there. He did caution that the building may need upgrades to bring it up to code for manufacturing.

Mr. Pentaris will submit a letter to the town clerk asking the planning board to consider rezoning. Mr. Wilber will present this at the meeting on October 19th.

Supervisor's Report

Mr. Hurlburt read the Supervisor's report for September:

General Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$624,818.63
Receipts:	32,876.43
Disbursements:	<u>20,306.23</u>
Ending Balance:	\$637,388.83
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$ 28,287.65
Receipts:	180.23
Disbursements:	<u>1,162.21</u>
Ending Balance:	\$ 27,305.67
Highway Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$659,175.92
Receipts:	15,208.94
Disbursements:	<u>1,580.64</u>
Ending Balance:	\$672,804.22
Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$684,458.56
Receipts:	133,143.52
Disbursements:	<u>73,217.86</u>
Ending Balance:	\$744,384.22

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to accept this report as read. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

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Dog Control Officer

Ellen Dwyer read the dog report for September 9th – October 13th: 1 report of loose/stray dogs; 1 unverified/unable to catch/no complaint; 1 information call on stray cats; and a resolution of the August dangerous dog complaint.

Town Clerk Report

Teresa Sears presented the Town Clerk report for the month of September.

County Representative

Mr. Brockway reported that the 2022 budget is staying within the 2% cap. He pointed out that Otsego County has the lowest taxes of any county in the state. Sales tax revenue is up; it will probably be over \$40 million by years' end.

Mr. Wilber reported that the 2 ambulances have arrived and radios have been installed. The first batch of applications were given to the 911 director today. He believes there are enough applications to fill the positions available. The EMS service is expected to be operating next month, stationed in areas of most need.

David Sheldon asked if the work being done on the bridge on Otsdawa Avenue will be completed by winter. Mr. Wilber agreed to find out.

Code Officer

Mr. Wilber reported that there is a modular being put up on State Highway 7. He is handling a septic issue on a property nearby. He is hoping to move a few "orders of remedy" through the court soon.

Highway Report

The Snow and Ice Agreement arrived from the county.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Barbara Stanton, to adopt the 5 year Snow and Ice Agreement with Otsego County Highway Department. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Mr. Hurlburt reported on other highway business. He has spoken to Eklund about a tractor, they have with bucket and 4 wheel drive. He will research this further. There is paving left to do, but they are waiting on an estimate and time frame from Cobleskill Stone. Following the class being taken by the highway workers, they will be making sand. The salt check from the village has yet to arrive.

Mr. Hurlburt has questions about what can/cannot be covered with the American Rescue Plan Act money. He will give the list of items needed to the town attorney.

Planning Board

The planning board is looking into the purchase of a new computer, as well as a new digital recorder.

Ridgetop Rentals

Mr. Mike Perry, who is pursuing a special use permit for a wedding/special event venue on Anderson Lane, expressed his frustration to the board with the length of time it is taking to obtain this permit. He gave a brief history of this pursuit. He believes he has been treated with animosity and rudeness by the planning board chairman. He opposes the invalidated letter of complaint and hearsay complaints received by planning board members that were shared at the September public hearing. He urges the town board to listen to the audio of the last two planning board meetings to witness how he has been treated. He hopes this issue will be settled shortly.

Budget

There will be a third budget workshop on October 20th at 5:00 pm to finalize the tentative budget. A public hearing will be scheduled for October 27th at 6:00 pm, after which the Town Board will take action.

MVP Renewal

Following two budget workshops, the board has decided to continue health care coverage with MVP.

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Royce Livingston, to approve renewal of health care coverage with MVP. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by David Sheldon, to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Mr. Wilber was invited to join the executive session.

Enter executive session: 7:10 pm

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A motion was made by Royce Livingston, seconded by David Sheldon, to exit executive session.
Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.
Exit executive session: 7:50 pm

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to reenter regular session at 7:51 pm. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Court Report

Kathy Davis was in attendance to ask about the temporary appointment of justices, the upcoming election, and possible consolidation of the court. Sexual harassment training, cyber security policy and training were also discussed.

Warrant #10

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by David Sheldon, to pay the warrant in the following amounts: General Fund vouchers # 191--214 in the amount of \$ 14,920.34. Highway Fund vouchers # 117--132 in the amount of \$ 12,985.03.
Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

A motion was made by David Sheldon, seconded by Royce Livingston, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Sears
Town Clerk

_____ Town Supervisor

_____ Town Clerk

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Highway Supt.